

Thou Art An Offence unto Me

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Matthew 16:22-23, "Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men."

Could anything be more heart breaking than to hear the Lord say, "Thou art an offence unto me?" Peter heard those words and it had to have hurt. He wanted to encourage the Lord and thought he was doing good, but he didn't see that he was doing the opposite. We need to always be careful of what we say and do, seeking to do God's will and not our own.

Can you, or I, be an offence unto the Lord Jesus? While we don't want to have him say that to us, he might if we seek to do our will instead of his. While Peter meant well, he was still wrong. Good intentions can still be in the wrong. How often is this repeated throughout history? Someone, or a group, decide that something is good and they promote it and practice it, but it is against the teaching of God. Some will say that it brought

new people into the church, or helped in some other way. Did that make it right when the Lord said it was wrong? Paul said, "For if the truth of God hath more abounded through my lie unto his glory; why yet am I also judged as a sinner?" **Romans 3:7**. Lies, deception, and any false way is wrong, no matter how good it may look and no matter who says that it is alright. If God says that it is wrong then it is, was, and will always be wrong. Those who practice such devices are an offence unto the Lord.

I have never been able to understand how people who say that they love the Lord and believe every word of the bible will mock the teachings of Jesus. On TV, radio, and in some churches that I have visited, there are those who openly ridicule things that Jesus and the apostles have taught. How can this be if they really believe in the Lord? Because some man, or men, whom they like says it, does that make them right and God wrong? No, God is not wrong, never has been and never will be. Man is always wrong when he listens to anyone other than the Lord.

God, unlike the man-made gods, revealed his will unto man. He sent prophets, ministers, and sometimes angels, to tell his will unto the nations. The written word, the Bible, was given by the inspiration of God and those who believe read and are instructed by the revelation of the Lord. We are also comforted

by the promises and the help given in the holy word. Since we have the will of God given to us by the Lord we would have no reason to not know how to serve and worship him in truth. If we follow his commands we will never hear him say that we are an offence unto him.

Those who will sadly hear him say, "Thou art an offence unto me," are those who listen to another voice and teaching instead of obeying the Lord. It might sound good now to hear an easy way that satisfies the flesh but when we stand before the Lord it will be terrible to hear that false ways were followed. Now is the time to study the scriptures and to see and to know that we are in the way of truth.

Some are so afraid to hear that they may be following in error that they get angry and close their ears to the truth. Consider this, where the scriptures plainly say to do, or not to do, something, who has the authority to say that it doesn't mean what it says? The answer is that no one has the authority to overrule God, and indeed, no one can. What is sad is that although no one can, many people continue to follow those who mock the doctrines of the Bible. Those who reject the truth and accept the lie will hear the Lord say, "Thou art an offence unto me."

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Genesis intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

A BRIDE FOR ISAAC
ABRAHAM'S STEWARD, ELIEZER, HAS GIVEN COSTLY GIFTS TO REBEKAH FOR GIVING HIM AND HIS CARAVAN WATER, BECAUSE HE HAS RECEIVED THE SIGN THAT SHE IS TO BECOME ISAAC'S BRIDE....



I MUST TELL MY FAMILY ALL ABOUT THIS!

...THERE IS A FAMILY COUNCIL AS SHE SHOWS THEM THE GOLDEN EARRING AND THE BRACELETS....

NOW REBEKAH'S BROTHER, LABAN, DASHES TO MEET THE STRANGER.

...HE SENSES GREAT IMPORTANCE IN WHAT HAS HAPPENED AND SPEAKS THUS TO ELIEZER: "COME IN TO MY HOUSE! WHEREFORE STANDEST THOU OUTSIDE? SEE, I HAVE PREPARED FOR THEE AND THY CAMELS!"

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